More Winsome Warriors

WWSDC

INTRODUCTION

Two years ago we published the first collection of 'Winsome Warriors", as a light hearted portfolio of undress uniform studies for the off duty enjoyment of the less serious student of military costume. The response suggested that even the keenest and most diligent uniform historian is happy to sit back and relax occasionally.

It is true that one or two correspondents did react a little stiffly, apparently believing that there was something sacred about military uniforms (even in reconstruction), and something unacceptably profane about the young ladies whom we persuaded to casually throw them on. However, the vast majority of those who wrote to us were enthusiastic - including a First World War veteran of Gallipoli, who told us that he and his comrades would have been delighted to have cheered themselves up with such photographs, and expressed his disbelief that anyone who objected could ever have served as a wartime soldier.

We have therefore decided that it would be churlish to ignore the many requests we have received; and we are happy to present a further, entirely random selection of some of the styles of costume worn over the centuries. Some are new studies of the charming models who graced the first collection; some are new friends entirely. We extend our grateful thanks to them; and to the collectors and re-enactors who have kindly loaned items from their collections.

Just why it is that men generally find the combination of an attractive woman and a uniform so appealing remains a mystery; it must be something to do with the strong visual contrasts between formality and informality, the harsh and the soft. There seems to us little point in puzzling over it, and every reason simply to recognize it and enjoy it.

More Winsome Warriors

A further light-hearted selection of military uniforms, from the 1st to the 20th Centuries

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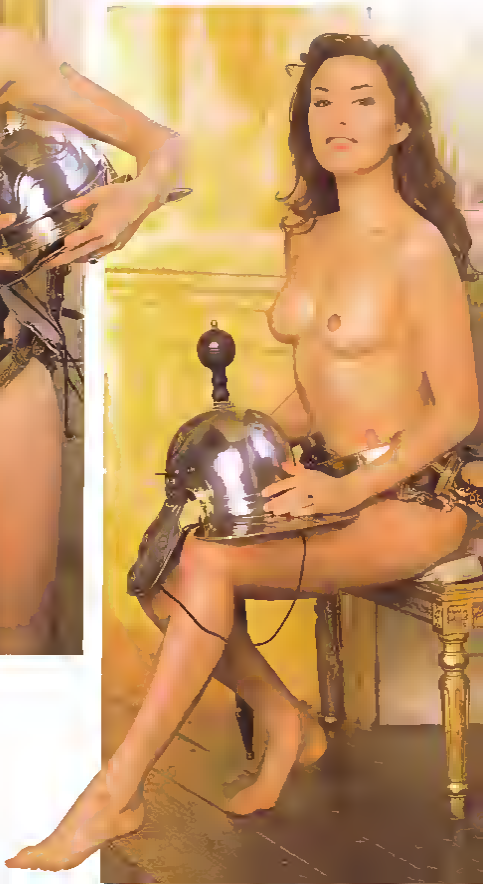

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1640-50
WW SDC

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1745

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SDC

1770-90
WW SDC

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1810-15

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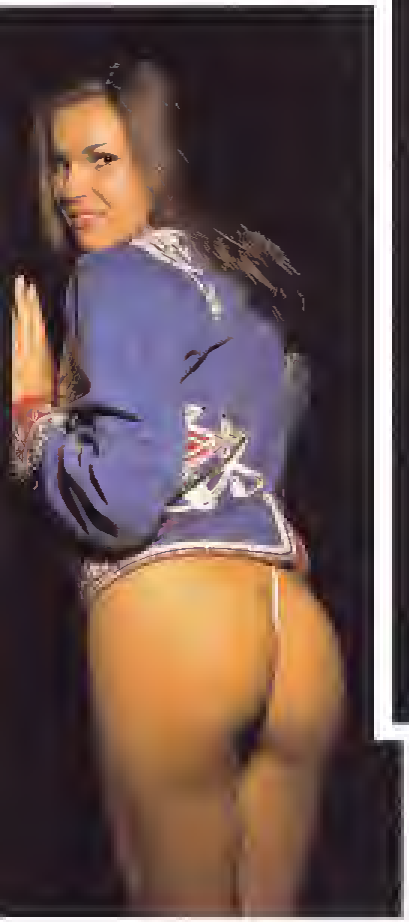
1830-40



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1860s

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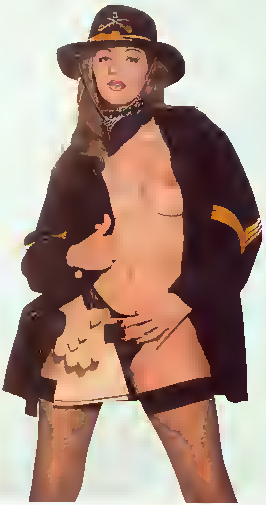
1880s



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1890

1910

1930

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1940s

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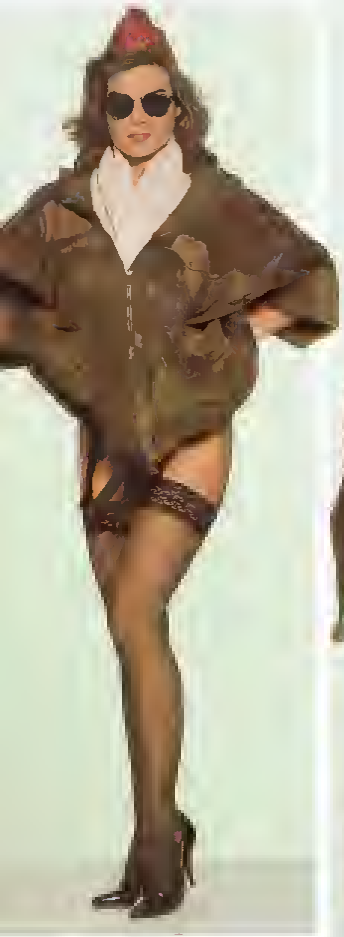
1950s



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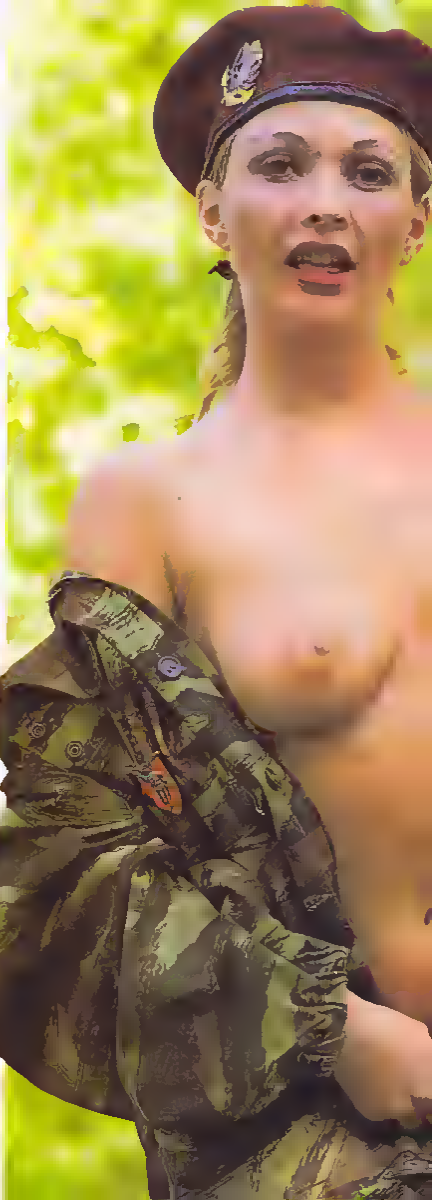

1960s
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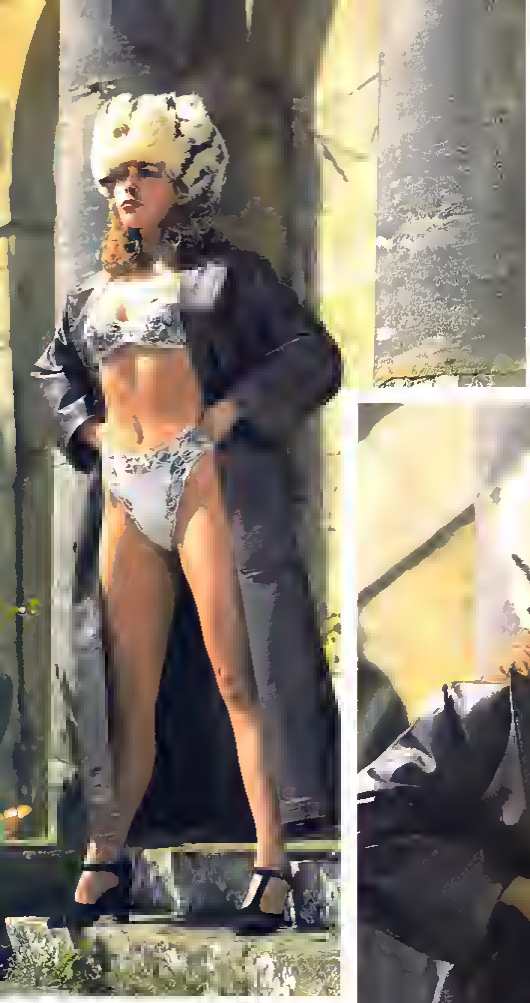

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1990s

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